

Asheville City Council
Planning and Economic Development Committee

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., June 14, 2006
Economic Development Office Conference Room

DRAFT
Minutes

Present: Councilman Jan Davis, Chair; Vice Mayor Holly Jones; Councilwoman Robin Cape. Staff members Gary Jackson; Scott Shuford; Bruce Black; Ed Vess; Shannon Tuch; Alan Glines; Stephanie Monson; Josh Hollingse and guests.

The Planning and Economic Development Committee met on June 14, 2006 at 29 Haywood Street at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Chair Jan Davis.

1. Web Seminar

The International Economic Development Council web cast was received until 2:45 p.m. Committee Chair Jan Davis invited staff and citizen comment. City Manager Gary Jackson made the observation that Greenville, South Carolina's level of public investment in facilities, streetscape, parking, etc. is exceptional. Additionally, the level of participation in the public/private partnership was above the norm. The Committee Members observed the impact streetscaping had on Main Street and elsewhere. The Committee expressed interest in visiting Greenville to see the public/private projects. The Committee concluded a TIF presentation would be beneficial for the full Council.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 10, 2006 Committee meeting were approved.

3. Updates and Status Reports

- a. Eagle/Market Street Redevelopment - The Committee approved a forty-five (45) day extension for development partners to finalize a proposal.
- b. CAN Recommendations - Gary Jackson made a report on discussions with CAN representatives.
- c. Prudential Signage - Planning Director Scott Shuford informed the Committee that a meeting with the property owner is scheduled for the week of June 19, 2006.

- d. Civic Center Economic Impact Study - Chair Jan Davis indicated that he planned to have discussions with Senator Martin Nesbitt.
- e. Building Safety - Building Safety Director Robert Griffin's report will be rescheduled for the July Committee meeting.
- f. HUB Representative - Councilwoman Robin Cape was designated as the Committee's representative.

4. Economic Development/Land Use Study

Scott Shuford gave a staff report on the suggested study by Dr. Steve Ha of Western Carolina University. The Committee decided to have staff review economic development goals, to review the goals with the Committee this summer, and target a fall Council retreat discussion.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Other Business

Vice Mayor Holly Jones asked about the accuracy of the web site information about commercial sites. Stephanie Monson responded that the information is not available on the City's web site. Staff is working to resolve getting accurate, up-to-date information.

Councilwoman Robin Cape shared information on the URTV programming that is being produced for small business development.

Vice Mayor Holly Jones expressed a concern about downtown maintenance. Gary Jackson suggested staff respond at the next Committee meeting.

Per the Committee, the regularly scheduled Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting of July 12 has been rescheduled to Wednesday, July 19, 2006, at 2:00 p.m.

6. Closed Session

At 4:10 p.m., Vice Mayor Jones moved to go into closed session for the following reason: to discuss economic development opportunities. This motion was seconded by Councilwoman Cape and carried unanimously.

At 4:45 p.m., Councilwoman Cape moved to come out of closed session. This motion was seconded by Vice Mayor

Jones and carried unanimously. At 4:45 p.m. the regular meeting was adjourned.